

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 28, 2010

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor of California
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

We are writing to express our serious concern about California's Fiscal Year 2010-2011 state budget delay and its impact on the state's low-income children and their families. Last year, California appropriated more than \$2.5 billion for the California Department of Education's Child Development Programs. These programs were funded with both state (74%) and federal (26%) funds. More than 500,000 children received services through approximately 797 public and private agencies statewide.

Most contracting organizations that provide these services have not received state financial support since July 1, 2010 because of the budget delay. While many providers have used program reserves and private loans to support these services in the interim, they can no longer afford to fill this financial gap. After September, many providers will be forced to reduce services significantly or close their child care programs -- displacing children, families, and program staff.

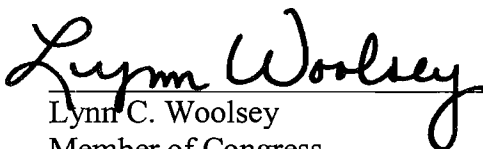
Subsidized child care:

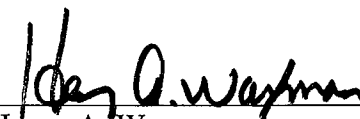
- Allows low-income families to stay employed and support themselves. Without this subsidized care, parents will have to choose between working and taking care of their children. This situation seriously jeopardizes the well-being of families;
- Enables children to have the rich early learning experiences which are critical to their development and success in school;
- Makes significant contributions to the local economy. The tens of thousands of Californians who work in the child care industry contribute individually to their local economies and provide an essential service that supports the larger workforce.

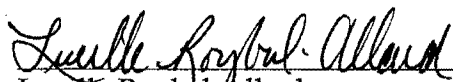
We are well aware of the challenges in balancing the state budget this year. However, children and families need our support now. We urge you to pass a budget which includes adequate funding for child care services as quickly as possible so that businesses can get the funding they need to operate. It's vitally important that subsidized child care services continue without interruption to support our community's children, families, and local businesses.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Lynn C. Woolsey
Member of Congress


Henry A. Waxman
Member of Congress



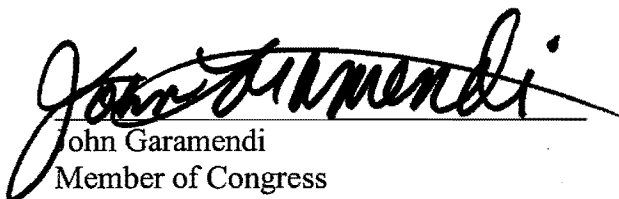
Lucille Roybal-Allard
Member of Congress



Fortney Pete Stark
Member of Congress



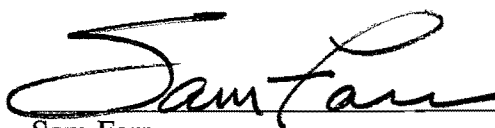
Laura Richardson
Member of Congress



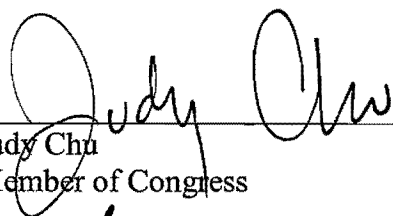
John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



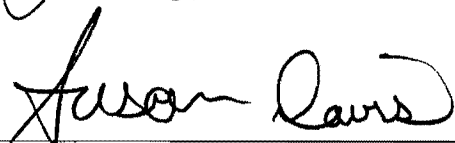
Sam Farr
Member of Congress



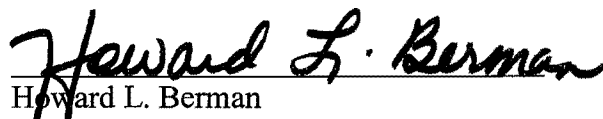
Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Lois Capps
Member of Congress



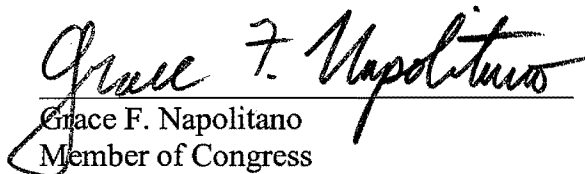
Susan A. Davis
Member of Congress



Howard L. Berman
Member of Congress



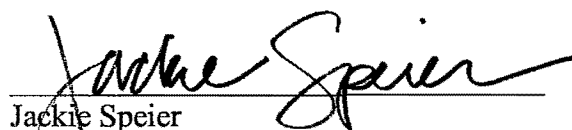
Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress



Michael M. Honda
Member of Congress



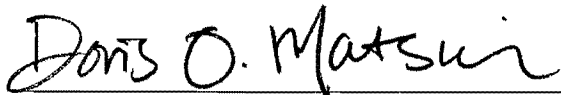
Jackie Speier
Member of Congress



Bob Filner
Member of Congress



Jane Harman
Member of Congress



Doris O. Matsui
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Brad Sherman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line drawn underneath the name.

Brad Sherman
Member of Congress